

Application No. 10/608,478
Reply to Office Action of August 18, 2004

Traversal of Election of Species Requirement

While not necessarily agreeing with the Examiner's assertion that the invention includes patentably distinct species, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's assertion that none of the present claims is generic. Rather, claim 1 is generic to all of the claims since the ranges of weight percents of Sn and Sb which are recited in claim 2 (38-50% and 3 to 9%, respectively) are subsets of the ranges recited in claim 1 (30-70% and 0.3-20%, respectively). Further, the content of Bi in the alloys according to claim 2 (41-59%, calculated by difference) is a subset of the content of Bi in the alloys according to claim 1 (10-69.7%, calculated by difference). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 be designated as generic, so that upon allowance, all of the claims would be rejoined in the application.

Election of Species

Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Specie I, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11, for initial examination. In view of this election, prompt consideration and examination of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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